

WHITE RUST OF CHRYSANTHEMUM

A. P. Martinez

White rust of chrysanthemum, *Chrysanthemum morifolium* Ramsb., caused by *Puccinia horiana* Henn., has not been reported in the United States. This fungus, however, is considered to be a more serious pathogen or disease-causing pathogen of chrysanthemum than *Puccinia chrysanthemi* Roze which is present in the United States. *P. chrysanthemi* attacks the new shoots early in the spring (4). The geographic distribution of white rust includes Austria, Australia*, China, Denmark, England, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, and Sweden (1).



Fig. 1. Rust infected leaf of
chrysanthemum

SYMPTOMS. The symptoms of the disease are large white waxy spots on the undersurface of the chrysanthemum leaves, but the main distinction occurs in the color of the sori or pustules (Fig. 1). The pustules of *P. horiana* are distinctly white to yellow, whereas those of *P. chrysanthemi* are chocolate brown in color (1). A comparison of the two rust fungi is presented for specific differentiation and identification of these plant pathogens on chrysanthemum (1).

*This report is the result of an interception at a port of entry.